



Pennsylvania Head Start life changing education birth through five.

## Pennsylvania Head Start Association Monthly Update

July 2017

### July Spotlight - Indiana County Head Start

#### PA One Book Author visits Indiana County Head Start\*

Micha Archer, author and illustrator of *Daniel Finds a Poem*, read her book to the children in Tammy Henry's class at the Indiana Area Head Start Center.

*Daniel Finds a Poem* is this year's book selection for One Book, Every Young Child. Celebrating its 12th year, this is a collaborative project using the vehicle of a "One Book, One State" program to highlight the importance of early literacy development in preschoolers ages 3-6 years. In its inaugural year, the One Book, Every Young Child program won the coveted national John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award.

Published in 2016 by Nancy Paulsen Books an imprint of Penguin Random House, the book tells the story of a little boy named Daniel who, while playing in the park, discovers poetry is all around him. After spending time with his animal friends, he creates his own poem to share.

One Book, Every Young Child is made possible through a collaboration of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, The Carnegie Science Center, Pennsylvania Library Association, Pennsylvania Center for the Book, Pennsylvania's Promise for Children, Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children and The Pennsylvania Child Care Association. This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries.

*\*Note - story was originally submitted for April update and is only being included now due to space issues*



In the  
**Spotlight**

**Would you like to see your program featured in next month's  
Spotlight Program?**

PHSA is looking for submissions for future Program Spotlight features. Tell us about the AMAZING, but everyday things that are going on in your program by emailing [karen@paheadstart.org](mailto:karen@paheadstart.org).

## Pennsylvania Budget Update

On June 30, the PA legislature sent Governor Wolf a spending bill for the FY state 17-18 budget that included:

### Child Care Services | Increase of \$20 million to \$155.691 million

Restores cut made to Child Care Services in FY 16-17, however \$15 million below Governor Wolf's request. DHS will use \$15.195 million in CCDBG funds to make up the difference which will enable OCDEL to remove 1,800 from the waiting list. Keystone STARS revisioning and tiered reimbursement initiatives are supported.

### Child Care Assistance | Decrease of \$12.7 million to \$139.855 million

Decreases Child Care Assistance funding used to provide child care subsidy to families currently receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and former TANF recipients. Prior year funding will be used to make up the difference. As a result, no children will be impacted.

### Pre-K | Increase of \$30 million to \$522.038 million

Funding for Pre-K Counts increases by an additional \$25 million to \$172.284 million. Head Start gains an additional \$5 million, bringing total state funding to \$54.178 million.

### Home Visiting programs | Increase of \$4.765 million to \$20 million

The budget provides \$4.765 million in new state funding for Family Centers while maintaining the \$11.978 million appropriation for Nurse Family Partnerships.

### Early Intervention | Increase \$19 million to \$440.423 million

Both Early Intervention 0-3 and 3-5 received increases at levels proposed by Governor Wolf. The request for Early Intervention 0-3 includes nearly \$6 million to replace lost federal funding.

A revenue package to pay for the budget has yet to be agreed upon. Governor Wolf did not sign the spending plan by July 10, and the bill became law. PHSA will put out information as soon as we learn more about the revenue package to pay for it.



## PHSA Has a New Outreach Manager!

PHSA is pleased to welcome Michelle Smith as our new Outreach Manager! While attending HACC from 2011-2013, Michelle became a member of Capital Area Head Start's Policy Council when her daughter was enrolled in CAHS' onsite Head Start program. She transferred to Shippensburg University and completed her Bachelor of Social Work degree in December 2015. During this time, she also was a Head Start and an Early Head Start Home Visitor and served on the PHSA Board of Directors. Michelle graduated in May 2017 from Shippensburg University with her Master of Social Work degree.



As the Outreach Manager, Michelle will take the lead on PreK for PA activity for the Association, begin implementing the Advocacy Engagement Strategy by working with directors to identify staff in each program that will serve as PHSA Program Liaisons, and providing support to these Liaisons as they lead their programs in advocating for Head Start and Early Head Start at all levels. Michelle lives in Mechanicsburg with her husband and four daughters. You may contact her by email at

[michelle@paheadstart.org](mailto:michelle@paheadstart.org).

## Introducing the PHSA Program Liaison Project

The PHSA Program Liaison Project was developed to identify an advocacy lead within each PHSA program and deepen connections between PHSA and Head Start/Early Head Start staff and parents. By identifying a “point of contact” within each member program, PHSA hopes that:



- All programs will have a known advocacy lead (Liaison) within their program
- Liaisons will ensure that all program staff and parents will understand the critical role that ongoing education and advocacy about their program plays in the continued growth of Head Start/Early Head Start in Pennsylvania and nationally
- Working with Liaisons, PHSA will be able to quickly mobilize Head Start/Early Head Start staff and parents around state and federal advocacy issues

In addition to ensuring that each Head Start/Early Head Start program has an identified advocacy lead, PHSA hopes to deepen connections between PHSA and the staff and parents within its member programs because:

- Liaisons will communicate to program staff and parents how they are connected to PHSA and the larger Head Start/Early Head Start Community
- Liaisons will increase program staff and parents’ understanding of the benefits and opportunities for engagement that come with PHSA membership

### Who designates a staff person as a PHSA Program Liaison?

The Head Start/Early Head Start program director will identify a staff member that will serve as their PHSA Program Liaison.

### What activities does a PHSA Program Liaison regularly participate in?

Each PHSA Program Liaison will work with their directors and PHSA staff to develop activities that best meet the needs of their individual Head Start/Early Head Start program. Though there will be differences in implementation, in general, Liaisons will do the following kinds of activities:

- Communicate regularly with PHSA staff via email, social media and conference calls
- Keep current on the news that impacts the PA Head Start/Early Head Start Community including issues related to state and federal funding, other parts of the early learning system and programs that support Head Start/Early Head Start programs, families and children
- Work with PHSA staff and their program director to develop a plan to ensure that all program staff and parents know what PHSA is and that their program is a member, are signed up for PHSA email lists and are signed up as supporters of the PreK for PA Campaign and that they understand the importance of educating community members and legislators about the positive benefits of their Head Start/Early Head Start program
- Work with PHSA staff and their program director to promote PHSA Monthly Update Calls and Parent Calls amongst their program staff and parents
- Fine tune their program’s message about the benefits of Head Start/Early Head Start in their community
- Identify program staff and parents who can speak about the positive impact of Head Start/Early Head Start
- Gather stories from program staff and parents that illustrate the positive impact of Head Start/Early Head Start
- Cultivate ongoing relationships with federal and state legislators and members of local government
- Identify program staff and parents who are interested in participating in district and capitol visits to legislators to emphasize the importance of the program in the legislator's district

### Interested in becoming a PHSA Program Liaison?

Talk with your program director!

## Health Services Regional Roundtables

Sponsored by the PA Head Start State Collaboration Office

All meeting will begin at 10:00 am and end at 4:00 pm

**\*\*\*Please note the date changes from the original invitation highlighted in yellow below**

Please join Amy Requa and Tracy Duarte for a discussion of the revised Head Start Performance Standards related to Health, Mental Health, Nutrition and Safety

| Date   | City         | Location         | Address  | RSVP by         |
|--|--------------|------------------|--|-----------------|
| August 22<br>(originally scheduled for 8/10) | Wilkes-Barre | Woodlands Resort | 1073 Highway 315<br>Wilkes, Barre, PA<br>18702 | RSVP by<br>8/15 |
| August 24<br>(originally scheduled for 8/9)  | Harrisburg   | PaTTAN           | 6340 Flank Drive<br>Harrisburg PA<br>17112     | RSVP by<br>8/15 |

Please RSVP by the dates listed above to:

Tracy Duarte  
tradua@pakeys.org

**Please be sure to indicate which location you are RSVPing for**



**Please remember to join our upcoming  
MCO-Head Start Liaison  
Monthly Networking Conference Calls**

*We need your input and participation to make change happen!*

**Thursday, August 17th at 1:30pm  
&  
Thursday, September 21st at 1:30pm**

Conference Call-in Number: 484-808-2016  
(No access code is needed)



# READY SET GROW

Linking Pennsylvania Farms  
to Early Childhood Programs



## Join the National Farm to School Network's Quarterly Farm to Early Care and Education Webinars

*August Webinar:*

*State Agencies as Leaders & Partners in Growing Farm to ECE*

*August 2, 3:30-4:40pm ET*

State agencies (including departments of agriculture, education and health) can be key leaders and partners in facilitating growth and institutionalization of farm to ECE at the state level. Join us to learn more about the variety of ways that state agencies across the country are leading the way in farm to ECE. Representatives from Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the South Carolina Departments of Health and Environmental Control and Social Services will share their innovative programs and strategic approaches to growing and supporting farm to ECE in their states. This webinar is open to all so please share widely. [Register here.](#)

### Save the date for future webinars:

- Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 3:30 PM ET

### Missed a Webinar? Visit the NFSN Farm to Early Care and Education Webinar Archive

The quarterly Farm to ECE Webinars presented by NFSN offer in-depth discussions, case studies and tools and tips for implementing farm to ECE at multiple levels.

**Bringing Local to Our Littlest Eaters:** In this webinar, speakers from NFSN, USDA and MSU CRFS share tips for getting started, strategies for success and innovative models that are scaling local purchasing practices in ECE settings.

**Celebrating Cultural Diversity with Farm to Early Care and Education:** This webinar focus on celebrating and connecting with diverse cultures and communities through farm to ECE initiatives.

**Success in State Level Partnerships:** This webinar offers insight into ECE agencies and organizations, and highlights opportunities for state level partnerships to advance farm to school in ECE environments. Speakers from USDA CACFP, Child Care Aware of America and the Iowa Head Start Collaboration Office share their work and answer questions.

**Exploring the Good Food, Great Kids Project:** This webinar recording shares highlights of the Good Food, Great Kids project, which developed a series of case studies on the emerging benefits of farm to ECE.

**Statewide Farm to ECE Network Building:** This webinar shares farm to ECE network models two states and highlights keys to success in building a statewide farm to ECE networks.

**Supports for ECE Professionals in Keystone STARS Programs to Increase their Education**



The Office of Child Development and Early Learning is funding the following programs in 2016-17 to help early childhood education directors and staff in Keystone STARS programs continue their education and earn credentials and degrees.

**As of July 1, 2017, all applicants eligible for T.E.A.C.H. ® must elect that option. Only those applicants not meeting T.E.A.C.H. ® eligibility requirements will be considered for Rising STARS Tuition Assistance.**

|  <b>T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood ® Pennsylvania Scholarship</b>   |  <b>Rising STARS Tuition Assistance Program</b>  |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Who is an eligible applicant?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ PA Resident working a minimum of 25 hours per week in a DHS-certified Keystone STARS child care program.</li> <li>✓ Earn \$19 or less an hour (\$25 or less per hour for Directors).</li> <li>✓ Be interested in pursuing coursework at a participating college or university (at least 9 credits per year) toward a degree or credential in early childhood education.</li> <li>✓ Applicant may apply for scholarships for a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential; CDA Assessment, Associate's degree; Bachelor's degree; or PA Teacher Certification.</li> <li>✓ Agree to continue working for a sponsoring employer for an additional year after each scholarship year.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Who is an eligible applicant?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ PA resident working a minimum of 20 hours per week in a classroom setting as the director, assistant director or education coordinator working in a Head Start or Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts classroom.</li> <li>✓ Earn up to \$40,000/year– Aides, Assistant Teachers, Teachers, or Assistant Directors (\$50,000/year -- Directors, Family or Group Child Care Home Owners/Operators, Head Start Education Managers, Coordinators, or Site Supervisors).</li> <li>✓ Be enrolled in a CDA, AA, BS/BA or MS/MA in Early childhood Education or related degree providing at least one credit.</li> <li>✓ Agree to continue to work in a Keystone STARS facility for 2 months for every credit supported by Rising STARS Tuition Assistance (maximum commitment of 24 months).</li> <li>✓ Maintain a 3.0 GPA for the classes taken or degree program in which the student is enrolled.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>What is covered?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Scholarship recipients receive funding for tuition, fees, books, travel and paid release time from their employer.</li> <li>✓ Recipients and sponsoring employers contribute a percentage of 10%-25% of the cost of tuition and approved fees for courses (usually 9-15 credit hours per year) at an approved college or university.</li> <li>✓ Recipients receive compensation in the form of a stipend or raise provided by the employer and/or T.E.A.C.H. ® after each successful scholarship year.</li> <li>✓ Sponsoring employers receive reimbursement for paid release time provided to scholarship recipients.</li> <li>✓ Scholarship Counselors provide professional development and career counseling, along with technical assistance to recipients and employers.</li> <li>✓ A variety of scholarship models are available to best meet needs. Release time and compensation vary by model. Details of each model are listed on scholarship applications.</li> </ul> | <p><b>What is covered?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Tuition assistance recipients receive funding for tuition costs only.</li> <li>✓ Rising STARS Tuition Assistance program pays 95% of tuition costs for eligible college coursework taken by early learning professionals.</li> <li>✓ Maximum benefit of \$6,000 per individual each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30).</li> <li>✓ Eligible employers may receive reimbursement for paid release time provided to staff to attend class, study or for substitute coverage.</li> <li>✓ Tuition costs net of other funding sources such as scholarships, stipends, discounts or grants (except Pell Grants) are used to determine the amount of assistance.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>How do I apply?</b></p> <p>For more information and to apply, visit PACCA's website at <a href="http://www.pacca.org/teach.html">http://www.pacca.org/teach.html</a> or call (717) 657-9000</p>  | <p><b>How do I apply?</b></p> <p>For more information and to apply, visit PA Key's website <a href="http://www.pakeys.org/pages/get.aspx?page=Career_Financial">www.pakeys.org/pages/get.aspx?page=Career_Financial</a></p>   |

# PA Early Ed News Announcement

*An inside look at Pennsylvania's early education system.*

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning supports families and their children from prenatal through school age by using data, research and stakeholder guidance to assure high quality services.



## Apply now for the 2017-18 OCDEL Policy Fellowship

**Application deadline August 5**

Applications for the 2017-18 OCDEL Policy Fellowship are open! The OCDEL Policy Fellowship is a great opportunity to learn more about state and federal policy, as well as grow your professional network and gain leadership. An approximately 20-hour per month commitment, you will have the opportunity to contribute directly to the work of OCDEL as you attend monthly cohort meetings in Harrisburg and participate in a variety of meetings and activities at a placement site. Applications and information are available online at [www.paocdelfellows.net](http://www.paocdelfellows.net). All emerging leaders in early learning are encouraged to apply by August 5! Contact Gina Federico at [gfederico@pattan.net](mailto:gfederico@pattan.net) with any questions.



## Infant-Early Childhood Mental Health Competency Survey

**Deadline August 15, 2017**

The Pennsylvania Association for Infant Mental Health (PA-AIMH), with support from the Pennsylvania Project LAUNCH Partnership, will be implementing the Competency Guidelines for Endorsement in Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-Focused Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health®, developed by the Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health (MI-AIMH). An endorsement in infant/early mental health (I/ECMH) is a verifiable process that supports the development and acknowledgement of infant and early childhood professionals, within a framework that recognizes knowledge, training, and criteria for best practice standards. It is not a license or certification, but instead is an overlay onto a person's professional credentials which recognizes achievement of competence in the area of I/ECMH.

PA-AIMH has developed a [short survey](#) for ALL professionals who work with or support children birth to age 6 and their families across our service systems. Responses are being sought from early care and education, home visitation, early intervention, physical health, behavioral health, child welfare, higher education, and any other system partner/ professional. The survey will assist PA-AIMH in making data based decisions related to the development of resources, cross-system relationships, and professional development activities to support the field. [Click here to take the survey before August 15.](#) For more information about PA-AIMH, please go to [www.pa-aimh.org](http://www.pa-aimh.org).

# PA Early Ed News

## Announcement

*An inside look at Pennsylvania's early education system.*

### A Message from Deputy Secretary Morris concerning Head Start/Early Head Start and STARS



Dear Head Start and Early Head Start Leadership,

I am pleased to announce that OCDEL will provide full reciprocity to Head Start and Early Head Start (HS/EHS) centers as entry into Keystone STARS with the implementation of the new STARS system this summer. In the coming months, HS/EHS Programs will receive a STARS Certificate from OCDEL stating that they are designated a STAR 4. HS/EHS programs that have on-site Department of Human Services certified child care centers will have a slightly different pathway due to their dual status. More details about this process are forthcoming but please know that OCDEL is committed to making the process of entering the STARS system as burden-free as possible.

Prior to the beginning of the school year, you will receive a packet of information including:

1. A welcome letter from OCDEL describing STARS for HS/EHS, the reciprocity process, and OCDEL's commitment to a friendly process that greatly reduces administrative burden to HS/EHS programs.
2. A request for basic program information such as contact information and center locations.
3. A process document that will outline all logistics involved in current and future designations.
4. Letter from OCDEL for use in Federal Monitoring Reviews stating that home-based programs are not included in the QRIS system in PA and verifying that HS/EHS programs are not required to be licensed by DHS.

The process of moving all current HS/EHS grantees into the STARS system will be facilitated by OCDEL through the PA Key; your contact person for this transition is Tracy Duarte, Manager, PA Head Start State Collaboration Office. There is nothing that you need to do until you receive your welcome packet via email in the coming weeks. If you have any concerns or need clarification on any points, please do not hesitate to reach out to Tracy at [tradua@pakeys.org](mailto:tradua@pakeys.org).

We are glad to be starting the process of including Head Start and Early Head Start programs in Keystone STARS at the STAR 4 level.



## Leadership in Action

Now more than ever, the leaders of the Head Start community need to come together to preserve Head Start's current funding level and structure. There continues to be a massive amount of change underway in Washington, and we need to continue doubling-down on our leadership and advocacy on behalf of Head Start's children and families. There will undoubtedly be challenges ahead, but together the Head Start community will continue to turn those challenges into the opportunity to make progress for the children, families and communities we serve across the nation.

NHSA's Fall Leadership Institute is important not only because it offers informative sessions, engaging panels, and invaluable networking events, but because it also provides the opportunity to meet with Members of Congress. The Government Affairs team will make sure that you have all the resources necessary to schedule Hill meetings with your Members of Congress during the week of the Institute. These meetings are critical to maintaining a strong working relationship with Congress and making sure that Head Start's voice is heard.

[Get More Info Here](#)

## Parents as Leaders Training

**Date:** September 26-27, 2017

**Location:** 4H Conference Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland (just outside of D.C.)

This fall in Washington, DC, during NHSA's Fall Leadership Institute, Head Start parents will have the opportunity to participate in the Parents as Leaders training - a unique day and a half of educational training program that focuses on developing parents into leaders in their programs, families and communities. This intensive training program is a part of our Families Unite for Head Start initiative, launched in 2017!

[Get More Info Here](#)

## Families Unite for Head Start Rally and Hill Day

**Date:** September 27, 2017

**Location:** US Capitol and the US Congress

On September 27th during NHSA's Fall Leadership Institute, Head Start parents from across the country, representing every state and hundreds of programs, will join the Head Start community in Washington, D.C. for the Families Unite for Head Start Rally and Hill Day.

At least 1,000 parents from around the nation will join Fall Leadership attendees to make their voices heard by participating in a Head Start spirit rally on Capitol Hill which will feature Head Start Ambassadors, Members of Congress, and other special guests! Following the rally, participants will walk to the US House of Representatives and the US Senate to meet with their Members of Congress. Many Parents who attend the rally will have just finished an intense day and a half of parent leadership training, which will be put to good use as they share their families' stories with Congress. Learn more about the Parents as Leaders Training.

Register to attend Rally

To ensure your participation in the Families Unite for Head Start Rally and Hill Day register today! .

Volunteer

Are you a director, program staff or Head Start supporter who will be in Washington, D.C. and would like to volunteer for the day? Sign up here!

[Get More Info Here](#)



National Home Visiting  
**Resource Center**

*Helping Children &  
Families Thrive*

**The National Home Visiting Resource Center (NHVRC) has launched a new web site featuring the 2017 Home Visiting Yearbook, the most comprehensive picture available of early childhood home visiting across America.**

Visit the new [NHVRC web site](#) to view the Yearbook, which features—

- A primer on home visiting, including its origins, evidence base, and funding sources
- A detailed look at the home visiting landscape on the national and state levels, including data on where programs operate, the families they serve, and the families who could benefit but are not being reached
- An overview of the home visiting workforce

The Yearbook is one of many resources available from the NHVRC, which aims to support sound decisions in policy and practice to help children and families thrive. Visit [www.nhvc.org](http://www.nhvc.org) to browse research, data, and stories about home visiting and to share your own research or story!

Want more? The NHVRC has a few ways to stay in touch.

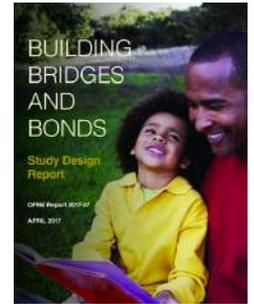
- Subscribe to the NHVRC e-newsletter by visiting the [NHVRC web site](#).
- Like the NHVRC on [Facebook](#).
- Follow the NHVRC on [Twitter](#) and tag [@NationalHVRC](#) when you post about [#homevisiting](#).
- Email the NHVRC at [info@nhvc.org](mailto:info@nhvc.org) with your questions, comments, and interest in helping spread the word.



## Notable Research

### Building Bridges and Bonds: Study Design Report

This report describes the Building Bridges and Bonds study, a rigorous evaluation of new program approaches to support low-income fathers in working toward economic stability and improved relationships with their children. The report includes a description of the three new program approaches being added to responsible fatherhood program services and the research design that is being used to evaluate them.



[Read the Report](#)

### Child Care & Early Education

#### RESEARCH CONNECTIONS Head Start Miami-Dade County, 2014-2015

Research Connections has just released the dataset from The Head Start Miami-Dade County, 2014-2015 study, funded by the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This dataset explores new, developmentally appropriate and reliable measures of motivation orientation among 350 low-income preschoolers served by the Head Start program. Data include direct assessments of school readiness outcomes such as children's language and science abilities, along with a teacher rating scale of approaches to learning.

[Read More](#)

### Improving school readiness of high-risk preschoolers: Combining high quality instructional strategies with responsive training for teachers and parents

This study evaluated whether the combination of two proven interventions, one in Head Start classrooms (The Early Education Model, TEEM) and one in the home (Play and Learning Strategies, PALS) resulted in enhanced effects on at-risk 3- to 5-year-old children's school readiness skills when compared to either of these interventions alone. Teachers and parents were trained to use a responsive style and strategies that supported children's school readiness skills with the goal of providing children consistency in responsive practices across the school and home environments. The study was conducted in 77 classrooms with teachers randomized to either the TEEM (n = 39) or No TEEM (i.e., control or business as usual, n = 38) conditions. Six to eight children in each classroom were randomly assigned to either have their parents receive PALS (n = 314; 210 after attrition) or to a No PALS condition (n = 309; 221 after attrition) resulting in four conditions: TEEM/PALS, TEEM/No PALS, No TEEM/PALS, and No TEEM/No PALS. Results showed greater gains in the TEEM teachers' language and literacy instructional practices and sensitivity compared to control teachers, but there were few significant findings for child cognitive outcomes. Parents receiving PALS, as compared to those without PALS, showed greater increases across play and book reading contexts in numerous responsive behaviors linked to the attachment and socio-cultural theories. Children whose parents received PALS versus those whose parents did not showed greater gains in direct measures of print knowledge and self-regulation and in social and language skills observed during interactions with their parent. Interactive effects of TEEM plus PALS were seen for increased engagement in shared book reading but not for other cognitive or social outcomes. (author abstract)

[Read More](#)

## Early Education Policy



### 5 Things to Know About the Opioid Epidemic and Its Effect on Children

Opioids are highly addictive drugs, available in illegal forms like heroin, or legal ones like oxycodone, hydrocodone, or morphine, which are available through a prescription. A drastic increase in the abuse of prescription opioids has gained national attention on multiple fronts for many reasons, including the impact of opioid abuse on young children. This June 2017 infographic summarizes key facts and provides links to additional information, models, and resources.

[Click here for more](#)

### Child Care & Early Education Science in Early Care and Education: RESEARCH CONNECTIONS Research-to-Policy Resources

In defining science education for young children, a report from the National Academy of Sciences highlights the importance of focusing on scientific exploration and inquiry rather than on facts and information. Currently most young children are not exposed to high quality science experiences in the early childhood classroom as many early educators lack time, space, materials, as well as content knowledge and confidence in teaching science content and methods. In order to ensure that scientific inquiry is integrated into the early childhood classroom there is a need to better prepare early childhood educators in science content, methods, and pedagogy. This resource list identifies resources from 2010 to 2017 that highlight resources on science in early care and education under the following categories: 1) Policy resources, 2) Promising practices, 3) Professional development and teacher preparation.

[Click here for the report](#)

[Click here for the resource list](#)

### Alliance for Early Success Website

The Alliance for Early Success has recently revised its website. New to the site are three databases accessible through the "Resources" tab:



- Alliance Clearinghouse - a collection of briefs, reports and data aimed at improving state policies for young children
- Making the Case - useful websites, toolkits and infographics for social media aimed at communicating the importance of the early years
- State Data - state fact sheets, maps and profiles on a variety of topics related to early childhood and care

Each database is searchable by keyword, publication year, organization, product type, and policy framework area.

[Click here to visit the website](#)



### Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visitation (MIECHV) Re-Authorization

Advocates for home visiting programs are asking Congress for five years of annual funding before federal funding for the programs expires on September 30th. Education Week's Christina Samuals talks about where we are.

[Click here for more](#)



## Loving Support© Social Media Toolkit – World Breastfeeding Week 2017

Promote the Loving Support© Campaign and WIC breastfeeding promotion and support during World Breastfeeding Week (August 1 – 7) and throughout the month of August with this set of social media images and messages.

To learn more about the implementation of the 2016 toolkit, read the article in the new WIC [breastfeeding supplement issue](#) of the Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior.



1. Review the [social media toolkit](#) overview with image previews, sample messages, and hashtags.
2. Download the images from the [Loving Support website](#) (right click on images) and save them to your computer.
3. Upload them to your personal or WIC agency social media accounts.
4. Use the sample social media messages and hashtags provided.
5. Include the link to Loving Support© <https://lovingsupport.fns.usda.gov/> in your messages and posts.
6. Encourage WIC colleagues and partner organizations to do the same.

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The [WIC Works Resource System](#) is an online education and training center for staff of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). It is a project of the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Questions can be sent to [wicworks@fns.usda.gov](mailto:wicworks@fns.usda.gov).



## Council Offers CDA Renewal Amnesty Program ([en Español](#))

The Council's Renewal Amnesty Program allows anyone with a CDA® credential expiration date as far back as January 1, 2007 to apply for renewal online. This amnesty opportunity provides a waiver of the CDA holder's expiration deadline. It does not waive the five steps required to renew a CDA®. All applications and payments must be submitted online by the Amnesty Program expiration date of DECEMBER 29, 2017 with no exceptions or extensions.

**If you plan to renew your CDA® you must complete the following five requirements:**

1. Attend continuing education or training courses in the setting of your original credential (Training taken after the issue date, not older than 5 years)
2. Choose an early childhood education (ECE) professional to complete your recommendation
3. Achieve First Aid and Infant/Child (Pediatric) CPR certification
4. Work with young children in the setting of your original credential
5. Join or renew your membership in a national or local early childhood professional organization

All of the five items above should be completed before submitting your online CDA renewal application.

**Additional Renewal Amnesty Program requirements:**

- All CDA® Renewal applications and required documentation must be submitted online (Paper applications are not permitted under the Amnesty Program).
- Renewal applicants must use the online YourCDA portal (create an online Renewal account).
- Amnesty renewal candidates must submit payment - \$125 online renewal fee by December 29, 2017.
- All renewals submitted under the amnesty program must be complete and meet "all five renewal requirements (applications that do not meet the five renewal requirements will be rejected)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** All renewal requirements must be complete before creating an online renewal account. Note – even if you have a current online account, you must create a new renewal account. Use Resource #3 below to view a webinar on "Registering for the YourCDA Online Renewal Application."

Resources:

1. [CDA Renewal Procedures Guides](#)
2. [How to upload documents to YourCDA Renewal Portal](#)
3. [List of webinars in English & Spanish: CDA Renewal Process](#)
4. [www.cdacouncil.org/yourcda](http://www.cdacouncil.org/yourcda)
5. [Renewal Amnesty Program FAQs](#)

## Events to Watch

| Date                | Event                                     | Location                                    |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Sept 25-28, 2017    | NHSA Fall Leadership Institute            | Washington, DC                              |
| September 27, 2017  | NHSA's Family's Unite for Head Start Rall | Washington, DC                              |
| October 3-4, 2017   | HSSAP Conference                          | Altoona, PA                                 |
| October 2-6, 2017   | NHSA Early Childhood Innovation Lab       | University of Utah, in Salt Lake City, Utah |
| October 16-18, 2017 | 2017 PA ECE Summit                        | State College, PA                           |
| Dec 4-7, 2017       | NHSA Parent & Family Engagment Conf       | Austin, TX                                  |
| April 11-12, 2017   | 2018 PHSA Annual Conference               | Seven Springs, PA                           |



## Join us for one of PHSA's Monthly Calls!

| Call   | Purpose   | Date/Time                                   |
|--|---|---|
| Monthly Update Calls<br><b>717-836-1406</b>                      | Get updates on current Federal, State and PHSA specific issues. | 1:00 - 2:00 the 3rd Wednesday of each month |
| PHSA Parent Call Toll Free Number<br>1-800-309-2350<br>327-1119# | Connects parents to PHSA Board and advocacy efforts.            | 2:00 - 3:00 the 3rd Thursday of each month  |

